

1) (currently amended) A front impact damper (1), characterized by comprising:  
a vertical supporting member (2) having a bottom end for secur[[ed]]ing firmly to the ground;  
and

~~a number of outer and one or more inner deformable tubular members (3) fitted inside  
one another and fixed to said vertical supporting member (2) for being at a given height off  
the ground when the bottom end of the vertical supporting member is secured to the ground,~~  
wherein the outer deformable tubular member (3) has an outer lateral surface secured  
at least at a point to the vertical supporting member (2); and  
the one or more inner deformable tubular members (3) are all inside the outer  
deformable tubular member (3) so as to rest one against the other at the point at which the  
outer deformable tubular member (3) is secured to the vertical supporting member (2).

2) (original) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that said  
deformable tubular members (3) are fixed substantially vertically to said vertical supporting  
member (2).

3) (original) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that said  
deformable tubular members (3) are fitted inside one another with mechanical clearance.

4) (currently amended) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 3, characterized in  
that said deformable tubular members (3) are fitted inside one another so as to be tangent to  
one another at the ~~same~~ point.

5) (currently amended) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that at least one of said deformable tubular members (3) comprises a portion of corrugated sheet metal (4, 7) having a W- or triple-groove-shaped section[[, and]] bent appropriately to form a cylindrical tubular body with a corrugated lateral wall.

6) (original) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 5, characterized in that said portion of corrugated sheet metal (4) with a W- or triple-groove-shaped section is bent into a loop.

7) (original) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 5, characterized in that said portion of corrugated sheet metal (7) with a W- or triple-groove-shaped section is bent into a C.

8) (currently amended) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that said vertical supporting member (2) comprises at least one metal bar (5, 8) for fix[[ed]]ing substantially vertically to the ground; said deformable tubular members (3) being fixed to ~~the top end of~~ said at least one metal bar (5, 8).

9) (currently amended) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 8, characterized in that said vertical supporting member (2) comprises at least one collapsible spacer member (6, 9) interposed between ~~the top end of~~ said metal bar (5, 8) and ~~the body of~~ at least one of said deformable tubular members (3).

10) (original) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that said deformable tubular members (3) are three in number.

11) (original) A road barrier, characterized by comprising a number of front impact dampers (1) as claimed in Claim 1.

12) (new) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 2, characterized in that said deformable tubular members (3) are fitted inside one another with mechanical clearance.

13) (new) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 12, characterized in that said deformable tubular members (3) are fitted inside one another so as to be tangent to one another at the point.

14) (new) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 2, characterized in that at least one of said deformable tubular members (3) comprises a portion of corrugated sheet metal (4, 7) having a W- or triple-groove-shaped section bent appropriately to form a cylindrical tubular body with a corrugated lateral wall.

15) (new) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 3, characterized in that at least one of said deformable tubular members (3) comprises a portion of corrugated sheet metal (4, 7) having a W- or triple-groove-shaped section bent appropriately to form a cylindrical tubular body with a corrugated lateral wall.

16) (new) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 4, characterized in that at least one of said deformable tubular members (3) comprises a portion of corrugated sheet metal (4, 7) having a W- or triple-groove-shaped section bent appropriately to form a cylindrical tubular body with a corrugated lateral wall.

17) (new) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 12, characterized in that at least one of said deformable tubular members (3) comprises a portion of corrugated sheet metal (4, 7) having a W- or triple-groove-shaped section bent appropriately to form a cylindrical tubular body with a corrugated lateral wall.

18) (new) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 13, characterized in that at least one of said deformable tubular members (3) comprises a portion of corrugated sheet metal (4, 7) having a W- or triple-groove-shaped section bent appropriately to form a cylindrical tubular body with a corrugated lateral wall.

19) (new) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 13, characterized in that said vertical supporting member (2) comprises at least one metal bar (5, 8) for fixing substantially vertically to the ground; said deformable tubular members (3) being fixed to said at least one metal bar (5, 8).

20) (new) A front impact damper as claimed in Claim 19, characterized in that said vertical supporting member (2) comprises at least one collapsible spacer member (6, 9) interposed between said metal bar (5, 8) and at least one of said deformable tubular members (3).